

BOOK REVIEW.

THE REDUCTION OF DOMESTIC MOSQUITOES.

Instructions for the use of municipalities, town councils, health officers, sanitary inspectors, and residents in warm climates. By Edward H. Ross, pp. x-114, Figs. 22. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia.

The domestic mosquito is dangerous and should be exterminated in our towns and cities. This is the message which Edward Ross's new book entitled, "The Reduction of Domestic Mosquitoes" conveys. It does more than this, however, by convincing us that it can be accomplished, for Edward Ross, after battling with the ignorance of natives and the most adverse political conditions succeeded in exterminating the Culicines as well as the Anophelines in Cairo and Port Said.

The first half of the book is concerned with the life histories of the Culicines and the diseases which they spread; the second half with the means used in interesting the people and the practical methods adopted towards exterminating the pests.

"Deal with the domestic mosquito whether the Anopheline is present or not in the town." *Culex fatigans* may not be dangerous in a certain locality while *Stegomyia calopus* and the Anophelines are rapidly spreading diseases. Yet if *Culex fatigans* is permitted to thrive, people will continue to be bitten, and the work will fall into ill repute. It must not be forgotten that all mosquitoes are alike to the average person. *Culex* is, however, usually dangerous, a fact which Ross emphasizes repeatedly. This insect is known to spread some diseases and probably does more harm than we are aware of owing to the fact that the understanding of so many illnesses, especially those of warm climates, are as yet in their infancy.

This book is written in a popular way, even quite humorously at times, and is intelligible to laymen as well as to professional guardians of the public health. For this reason its good effects should be far reaching if the work is widely read.

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